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File: Cambodia

13 July 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Imagery Collection Requirements  
Subcommittee (ICRS), COMIREX

SUBJECT : Priority Need for Comprehensive High-Resolution  
Photographic Coverage of Eastern Cambodia

1. The fragmentary photographic coverage currently being acquired over eastern Cambodia is inadequate either for systematic search, identification, and analysis of Communist logistic activity in that area, or for meaningful reporting on Communist efforts to recoup the effects of recent allied military operations in Cambodia. It is essential that action be taken, immediately, and as a matter of high priority, to obtain an up-dated high-resolution photographic data base of eastern Cambodia (roughly east of 105° East) in initial support of these intelligence needs.

2. Repetitive, comprehensive photography of this area will be required thereafter to assess the flow of Communist supplies moving southward from Laos and to determine the pattern and extent of Communist logistic operations in Cambodia. Low-level coverage as is now being acquired by FACE VALUE missions would continue to provide information on "pinpoint" targets and supplement the more extensive coverage acquired in direct response to the priority need outlined in this memorandum.

3. The needs of higher authority for continuing intelligence on both the level of Communist logistic activity and the effectiveness of Communist moves to overcome the results of allied operations in Cambodia clearly warrant measures which will insure collection of adequate overhead photography of eastern Cambodia. It is recommended, therefore, that ICRS endorse this memorandum and request immediate Department of Defense action to acquire comprehensive (or cumulative) high-resolution photographic coverage over Ratankiri and Mondulkiri Provinces -- major portions of which have not been covered adequately in the past year) at the earliest date possible, and approximately weekly thereafter, to the extent that weather and operational considerations permit.

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Imagery Collection Requirements  
Subcommittee, COMIREX

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22 July 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT : Cambodian Coverage Request

1. Per our teleconversation and after further discussion with various intelligence components, it is requested that you take action to expedite U-2 (GIANT NAIL) and/or SR-71 (GIANT SCALE) coverage of Cambodia east of 105° east, with priority accorded to the two easternmost provinces of Ratanakiri and Mondolkiri.

2. Repetitive coverage, at about weekly intervals, operational factors permitting, is desired. A ground track that has been proposed to this office is attached for your information.

3. Request this office be included as an addressee, or be provided copy, of implementing instructions. Formal recording of ICRS action will be accomplished at the next ICRS meeting.

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Chairman  
Imagery Collection Requirements  
Subcommittee

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